

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A protective instrument cover, comprising:  
a front portion that extends over substantially an entire front surface of ~~ana~~  
stringed instrument body and is between (a) the stringed instrument body and (b) a string of  
the stringed instrument body; and  
means for attaching the front portion to the front surface of the stringed  
instrument body without requiring removal of hardware of the stringed instrument body.
2. (Currently Amended) The protective instrument cover of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~  
~~front portion~~ at least part of the cover comprises stretchable material.
3. (Original) The protective instrument cover of claim 2, wherein the stretchable  
material comprises neoprene.
4. (Original) The protective instrument cover of claim 2, wherein the stretchable  
material comprises spandex.
5. (Original) The protective instrument cover of claim 2, wherein the stretchable  
material comprises latex.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) The protective instrument cover of ~~claim 6~~ claim 1,  
wherein the stringed instrument is a guitar.
8. (Original) The protective instrument cover of claim 1, wherein the means for  
attaching comprises at least one zipper.
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) A protective instrument cover, comprising:

a front portion that extends over substantially an entire front surface of an a stringed instrument body, the front portion being made of stretchable material and is between (a) the stringed instrument body and (b) a string of the stringed instrument body; and

a fastener that attaches the front portion of the cover to the front surface of the stringed instrument body.

11. (Currently Amended) The protective instrument cover of ~~claim 10~~claim 19, wherein the stretchable material comprises neoprene.

12. (Currently Amended) The protective instrument cover of ~~claim 10~~claim 19, wherein the stretchable material comprises spandex.

13. (Currently Amended) The protective instrument cover of ~~claim 10~~claim 19, wherein the stretchable material comprises latex.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The protective instrument cover of ~~claim 14~~claim 10, wherein the stringed instrument is a guitar.

16. (Original) The protective instrument cover of claim 10, wherein the fastener comprises at least one zipper.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A protective instrument cover, comprising:  
a front portion that extends over substantially an entire front surface of an instrument;  
a back portion that covers at least part of a back surface of the instrument body;  
a side portion connecting the front portion and the back portion; and  
means for attaching the front portion, back portion and side portion to the instrument body without requiring removal of hardware of the instrument body;

wherein at least one of the front portion, the back portion or the side portion comprises stretchable material; and

wherein the means for attaching is functionally independent of a stretching action of the stretchable material.

19. (New) The protective instrument cover of claim 10, wherein at least part of the cover comprises stretchable material.